



This is the pro shop at the New Albany Country Club, claimed to be the nation's model small town club. Note how good taste makes the moderate expenditure do its greatest.

## Golf Club vs. Country Club in Small Towns

By GEORGE DAVIES

WHEN the smaller town starts out to form a golf club the big mistake that frequently is made right at the start is made because most of the club organizers don't realize the difference between a strictly golf club and a country club.

Every small town can bring into display enough golf interest and enthusiasm to build and keep up a very fine golf course but owing to the social line being drawn so finely very few towns of small population can maintain even a second rate country club. In country club organizations you have to leave out a lot of people with whom the small town "society" men could go and enjoy a fine game of golf but who would not mix at all when the wives and daughters are brought into the picture.

Much of the income of a country club that should go to maintain a golf course in excellent condition goes to the entertainment features for the enjoyment of a comparatively small number of the town's population. A few teas, bridge parties and dinner dances that might just as well be given elsewhere are given at the small town country club and the expense of giving them and furnishing facilities for them usually means that the course is neglected.

### The "Hurrah Guy"

Every small town has the "Mr. Whoop and Holler" type of fellow who may be useful in getting its golf club started but he should be kept in check. Properly governed he is a most useful person, if he is allowed to ride rough-shod over things, the club soon will degenerate into a one

man affair and interest and harmony will quickly die.

My advice to the small town moving factors who want to get their club started on right is to invite everyone in town to join. Make it a golf club rather than a highly social proposition and you will be able to get your members interested in the proper construction and maintenance of your course for the expenditure of money will show in this respect. This expense will serve everyone and, if properly made, will save a lot of money in the long run.

Some time ago I was called in to help form a small town club and work out a system of financing. After several meetings they adopted my plan which called for the formation of teams, each to work a certain street in town, making a house-to-house canvas and inviting the head of the household to become a member. Everyone over sixteen years of age in each household was solicited for a membership to cost five dollars. The beauty of the plan was that most of those solicited gave more when the aims of the club were explained to them. None, of course, gave less than the minimum figure. A membership card was given to each one subscribing. It really didn't mean a thing financially as the members had to pay greens fees the same as everyone else, but it did give some definite marking to those who had pride enough in their town to pay something toward giving it a golf course. In actual cash something over \$7,000 was quickly collected in this manner and with the volunteer labor, properly supervised,

the town soon had a first class golf course for a small community.

I had the pleasure of laying out the course for these people and taking care of its construction. While the regular greens were being built play was on temporary greens which were fairly satisfactory as the course was located in the blue-grass country and had a fine growth when we got the land.

That course always has had all the play it could care for and golf interest grows each year in the town. The house on the place that was purchased was turned into a locker-room and small club room where soft drinks could be purchased. Although it was far from a country club with all of the "ritziness" that term implies, I maintain that it is a good golf club and a worth-while example of the wisdom of a small town building a good golf club rather than a poor country club.

## Two Sand Green Cup Ideas Answer Plea

A COUPLE of solutions to the sand green cup difficulties set forth by a greens chairman in the June issue of GOLFDOM were promptly forthcoming. At Anaconda, Mont., the local country club had the good fortune to get W. C. Capron, mechanical superintendent of the Anaconda Copper Mining Co., to work out for it the cup shown in the accompanying sketch. Of this cup Mr. Capron says:

"We originally had single cups, but they were a decided nuisance, as every time the track was swept for putting, the cup had to be cleaned by hand.

"The present cup was adopted several years ago and is in rather general use in Montana today. We find this a most satisfactory cup for sand greens, as the inside cup can easily be pulled and emptied, and very little sand gets into the outside cup. Of course, the outside cup has to be cleaned occasionally, but not often.

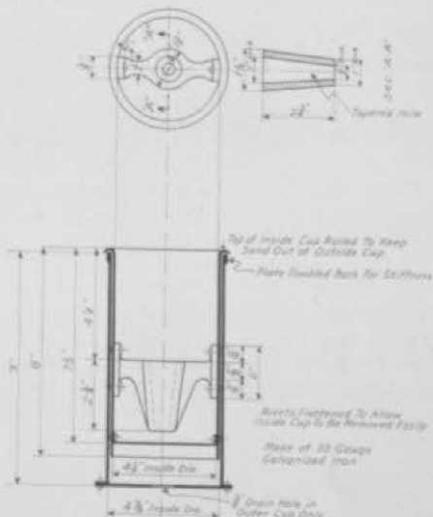
"The flag support in the inside of the cup is a small casting riveted into the inside cup. You will note that the taper on the hole for supporting the flag is rather sharp. We found that a slight taper would allow the ferrule on the flag to bind, whereas the more pronounced taper does away with that.

"In setting this cup, the outside cup is set permanently in the ground with the top  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch below the surface of the sand."

At Garden City, Kan., the Garden City

Country Club tried several ways and finally found most satisfactory the following sand green cup idea which is described by W. J. Straup:

"We had cups 24 inches deep made from galvanized iron about 14 gauge. These fit snugly around the regulation cups which are held in place inside of these long



sleeves by four knurls or round-headed rivets ground on one side so that there are shoulders to hold the regulation cup from dropping down. Then we use a prepared auger arrangement for lifting the sand out of the cups about once a week.

"This not only gets away from the sand in the cups but it gives a good position for the regulation cups, making the holes uniform in size and not sloping to the cup as the general rule."

## Plan Holding a Golf Show at Detroit

PRELIMINARY plans are being made for holding exposition and convention relating to the business end of golf. The National Greenkeepers' association is making overtures to the Club Managers' organization and to the Professional Golfers' association with the purpose of allying the three bodies in an exposition to be held at Detroit early in March, 1928. It is the suggestion of the greenkeepers that each association hold its annual convention during the time of this meeting and that the affair be strictly confined to the business operations of golf.